

Dear Family & Friends of the Wolfpack,

The company is continuing to do great things for the Army and the people of Iraq. We made many great strides this month and are looking forward to continued success in March. Our Iraqi Army battalion gets a little bit better every day, and each time the route clearance team goes out on a mission they make the local area safer.

Heavy Metal: I have been particularly proud of the Assault & Obstacle (A&O) Section lately. SGT Steffen and his crew have been working almost non-stop on FOB improvement and doing earthmoving work for the other companies out in sector. They are now running an up-armored D7 bulldozer, three Small Emplacement Excavators (SEEs), and a Bobcat skid steer loader. Soon they will add road grader and articulated scoop loader operations to their expanding repertoire. This equipment makes us even more valuable to the battalion as engineers and combat multipliers. Special thanks go to our brothers in the 62nd Engineer Battalion for helping us train on this new gear.

Well-Deserved Breaks: Mid-tour leave operations are in full effect. Although every member of the company will get an opportunity to take leave, some Soldiers had to go first and some will have to go near the end of the deployment. 1SG Dean has worked hard to ensure that most requests for the timing of leave were fulfilled. We want to remind everyone, though, that it's important to think safety while on leave. It's also very important not to try to do too much when your Soldiers come home—enjoy the time you have together and make sure to include rest & relaxation into your plans.

Overdue Thank-Yous: We have an outstanding support structure among our families and friends back home. A hearty thank you goes out to our wonderful family readiness group who sent a very large box of Valentine's Day goodies to every Soldier. The same is true of our adoptive family in Waco. We're very lucky to have so many people supporting us from back in the States.

On the Horizon: We will continue to do the same types of missions in the upcoming weeks and months. Headquarters and 1st platoon will continue to focus their efforts on making our Iraqi Army battalion an effective fighting force. 2nd platoon will continue to seek out and destroy the IEDs that threaten coalition soldiers and the Iraqi people. A&O section will soon be moving back to FOB Kalsu where they will support the rest of the battalion with their heavy equipment. The 1SG and I will be sure to check on all of our Soldiers regularly wherever they are, and we will be sure to keep the FRG updated about the great things that are happening here every day.

Finally, thank you again for all of your kind thoughts and prayers. The company appreciates everything you do for us and we send our best wishes.

Sincerely,

James P. Cook
CPT, EN
Commanding